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A Talk on Begonias
Floral Society

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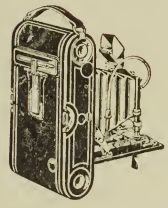

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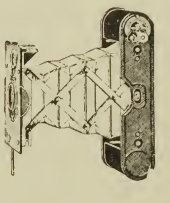

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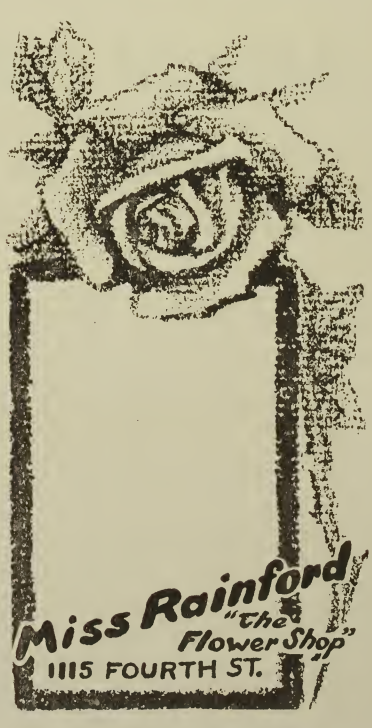

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The California Garden

Published Monthly by the San Diego Floral Association

One Dollar per Year, Ten Cents per Copy

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THE Sentiment to maintain the Exposition for another year seems to be gathering force. Every visitor whether prominent or not adds his much or little to it in spite of the fact that the chief problems to be solved in so doing are not within his ken. We are not objecting to this universal advice distribution, especially as we have a little to scatter ourselves, but instead of keeping things in statu quo, why not accentuate the proven attractions and let go of the others.

The garden side of the Exposition, the out of doors, is its big thing. If it is to continue through 1916, why not arrange for the unique floral display that our conditions make possible? The nursery and seeds-men have put much into San Francisco in a location lacking every advantage, why cannot they be induced to move to San Diego for 1916? What hinders the carrying out of a big floricultural competition along the lines laid down by this Magazine when the Fair was in embryo? If the fiasco of the $1000 rose contest cannot be satisfactorily explained it could be palliated by an ample and suitable apology, and this time contestants would be in charge of their own exhibits. A committee of local nursery folk and flower lovers could get up a premium list fitted to local conditions and covering the whole year successively. Flowerplots could replace the Isthmus Concessions. Countries could be invited to make typical gardens, and all without a very great expenditure. The expensive frame work is all up, the exposition is built, this is a minor change of detail along lines that experience has indicated. A tentative campaign among nursery folks ought to be made for a few hundred dollars and this would show whether further expenditure were justified.

Along such lines a permanent exhibit would easily grow. The Government would surely add an experiment station, possibly a branch of its plant importing bureau, and any one can figure out a hundred legitimate features not touched upon here. And then we might have that ten-acre lath house that is going to be built somewhere in Southern California—we do hope in San Diego.

As we are furnishing the idea we may certainly go a bit further and say that this is a job for a gardening expert with local knowledge. Of course a competent landscape artist should be consulted for surface plans, but local garden experience must fill it in. Shall we say to the East, "You liked our Exposition in 1915, you wandered in its gardens and loved its arbors, that was just a beginning, the frame work; now we have filled in the picture and the veritable Garden of Allah awaits

When in 1916 the heat of summer or the pinch of winter makes the Easterners think of travelling he will more than likely turn again to California. Why not see that the pull of San Diego shall be stronger than ever, when the big Fair at San Francisco is no longer a rival.

It is an idea, think it over.

After a trip up the coast, one is more than ever impressed with the fact that San Diego is making progress toward better sanitary conditions and civic beauty. Particularly along the water front is this noticeable since the health department has maugurated a clean-up campaign. When this work is completed, then will come the greater task of deciding what manner of improvement shall be permitted and encouraged. The city beautifier is not against the smoke-stack, so long as the smoke-stack is not in the city's front yard. We want just as many factories in San Diego as can be found articles to manufacture and market at a profit, but when some citizens think of factories, they immediately think of the foot of Broadway, with no other alternative to be considered. No one wants a park to occupy the waterfront, or at any rate not much of one, but we do want some definite plan of development decided upon which will give us common people a chance to get a sniff of salt water, minus decaying refuse. Furthermore we believe it just as economical to build along harmonious lines as to clash with your neighbors, whether a factory or a dwelling is to be constructed.

Children's Playgrounds

By The Early Bird

WITH the Playground movement so much in the air, what wonder that it should direct my flight to the Children's peculiar department of that wonderful demonstration of what man working with nature, can accomplish—Golden Gate Park in San Francisco. The city of the north can have its bay, its fair, its hills and all its other delights and no stir of envy comes to me, but when I think of its Park, and more particularly its Children's Playground, I feel that they ought to be in a climate where their enjoyment need not be so strenuous, and that indicates San Diego, of course. This is written to connect Balboa Park and a real Playground for our southern tots in the minds of a few with whom will lie the burden of implanting it in the minds of many. The city playground of bare earth bearing up swings and bars, is only acceptable where nothing else is possible. Our future citizen should play in an atmosphere of grass and trees and flowering things, rather than in one of chicken fencing. Comparisons are odious, therefore let us to our destination.

With my young hopeful, aged six, I walked between giant trees upon which creepers ran, by beds of flowers where bees worked, over lawns of velvet green. We called on the black swan that has shown his pink beak and ruffled wings to a million children and through a leafy tunnel descended into the place of the realization of all the healthy dreams of young children.

Snugly packed away in a sheltered hollow is a merry-go-round without the nerve racking machine music. Swings of all calibre, seesaws that are almost human in their adaptability, donkeys that are qualified children's nurses, goats that never butt, lawns upon which to roll, trees to climb and not one "Don't" on the whole place.

I sat me on a seat for parents and let loose my daughter, after we had lunched appropriately upon sandwiches, cookies, cake and milk topped off with a cornucopia. All these things and many others, coffee, etc., are procurable on the grounds at a reasonable price and of excellent quality. One gets them in a tray and eats them where you please, sprawled upon the lawn, under the spreading oaks, or in horrid customary comfort at a table. Never did I so thoroughly appreciate the supreme fitness of the cornucopia as now, while it slowly revolved, so to speak, inside my daughter, as she sat upon the arm of a bench and absorbed it. A tot of fourteen months waddled across to watch this absorption. He had a pink dress, yellow hair, blue eyes and seven teeth. God bless his mother that she let me give him a cookie, for if she had been strictly hygienic it would have been a flaw in the perfect day and I should have lost the consoling demonstration for my second childhood that a hard cookie can be masticated with only seven quite small teeth. A bigger boy in blue with fat socked legs succeeded. He scorned all provender and only wanted to stare me out of countenance and succeeded passing well.

Though it was the children's land, I felt no more out of element than at the circus. I am morally certain there were other grown-ups there whose excuse was less than mine, for I felt in my bones they brought borrowed kiddies.

For a nickel we got three tickets that admitted to anything, and patronage was first bestowed on the merry-go-round. I don't ride on these contrivances, for there is a portion of me that always gets behind in the movement and—well I don't like them, so Miss, unattended, mounted a muddy bay steed with anxious eye, which was hotly pursued by a vicious black mare bestridden by a full-blooded Indian in the latest in war paint. As the parade circled I noticed all the horses had a worried expression. Perhaps they were thinking of the Ford automobile or the European war. What a perennial joy is the merry-go-round. The infant rides in a boat, quickly graduating to a quiet horse and thence boldly mounting a bucking broncho. A small boy got up beside my daughter on the second round and shamelessly eloped with her. From the round abouts we essayed the donkeys and after a long wait, while those in the saddle rode out all their tickets, got a venerable ass, who marched with measured tread and slow around a course, proscribed by a wire fence. Four times the course was covered with delightful seriousness, at every turn an attendant wheeled the steeds into line and started them in another heat with affectionate adjuration, Billy was invited to "Get along" and Emma implored to "move up." Though the riders far outnumbered the ridden, absolute good noture prevailed and children, grown-ups and donkeys mixed in a jumble at the end of every heat, that melted into order as if by magic. I had almost forgotten the goats. They go to sulkies and one drives when weary of riding. There is a tub of water for the animals, and when any of them get thirsty they go and take a drink, perfectly oblivious of rider and driver. Should they get weary or

hot on the course they stop in the shade of the trees and scratch flies off one leg with the other one, till the pressure behind makes them move on. If I could not be a child in this Playground I would not mind being a donkey or a goat.

Of course we tried all kinds of swings, but my daughter would not venture down the slide. It was here I noticed that definite fashions belong in the playground. For the slides black stockings and lingerie, also black and clamped to the leg with elastic, are absolutely essential. My girl had the stocking but not the rest, so perhaps that is why she would not slide, for the merry-go-round never slip garters, and short sleeves for the swings. Hats are permissable, but not enregle, bows, medium, and worn to one side, hair long, if curly, but bobbed if straight. Even these children know it is a woman's age. Small girls wear pants as to the manner born and small boys wear skirts without a blush.

I took my child to that Playground so that she might have a good time. She did and so did I. When I was permitted I sat in an atmosphere of childish joy, the simon pure article unadulterated with grown up stimulants, while the trees and the shrubs made a living wall that held back all those things we would rather our children never knew. Outside was the strife for power and place and across the water men were being fed to cannon. Yes! playgrounds are a good thing and a hopeful sign. Perhaps after all play, just play, is an important factor in evolution.

San Diego has a most efficient Playground Commission doing great work and this is not to even suggest anything to the contrary, being mere whispers of the trees and flowers that the right setting for a Playground is in a garden and that a playground for children may prove also splendid mental recreation for grown-ups.

The August Garden

By MISS MARY MATTHEWS

WHILE any planting that is done this month, will require constant care still if one wants to give it, there are a number of things that can be put in. This is one of the best months for sowing seeds of hardy perennials. Sow sweet peas for Chirstmas flowering, but you must give them attention from the time the ground is prepared till the vines have made their bloom and ready to come out. You can now put in seeds of calceolaria, primula and cineraria. These, of course, want to be planted in flats with good, loose soil and plenty of sand. Sprinkle the seed lightly over the surface of the flat, then cover with spagnum moss and water thorough this when needed. This covering should be removed as soon as the seeds are well sprouted, but keep them in partial shade at all times. This is a good time also to start plants from seed or cuttings of the blue marguerite, closely related to the cineraria, and which is used so abundantly in the Exposition grounds. There I notice they list it as Agathoea. I have known it always as Felicia Amellodes, named for Herr Felix, a German official who was sent to South Africa on a diplomatic mission and wisely put in his spare time studying the native flora and brought home the seeds to plant. Under any name it is a charming blue daisy, well worth growing in the border.

You can still plant begonias and fuchsias this month, but not later. A good time also to divide or plant bamboos, papyrus or any of the decorative grasses. Be sure and note the variety in the shades of color in the Eucalyptus Ficifolia. I saw one the other day that came very near a pure orange. Then again one that was nearer pink than red. This variety does not grow so lustily or take so much root room as others, and one tree of a good color will make a bouquet for a whole back yard when in full bloom.

Any winter blooming plants or quick blooming shrubs can be put in now and become well established before blooming time. This month concentrate your mind on the bulb question. If your Watsonias were dug put them back again. Freesias should be put in a shady place. The edge of a north border is a good spot. Iris Germanica that are to be divided should be taken up now. This variety of the Iris is rather a doubtful success here. They grow and increase but the bloom crop is scanty and uncertain, but the Spanish Iris, which comes from the small bulb, never fails.

About four seasons ago I bought four bulbs of a Dutch Hybrid which have proven a good thing. They bloom at least ten days earlier than their parent Spanish Iris, have increased at a good rate and are very hardy. This season I am leaving them unlifted to see what the outcome will be. There are no pure yellows in them thus far. Make your bulb list so as to be ready to send in your orders as early as possible.

Monthly Excursion Through Exposition Grounds

By G. R. GORTON

THE aquatics in front of the Botanical Building have benefited by the warm weather of July and August, and are now decidedly on show. The water lilies in La Lagunita de Las Flores, as the smaller pool is fancifully termed, present a veritable rainbow of color—reds, pinks, blues, creams, yellows, in many shades. The dainty Pygmaea helvola, the Chinese dwarf water lily, perfect in miniature, and suitable for an "aquatic garden" in as small a compass as a washtub, is an interesting type, and it is a far cry from this to the immense deep blue Nymphaea Pennsylvania or the showy red N. Gloriosa. The Nelumbiums, one in each of the corners on the north side of the pool, are at their best. The rich blue of the Water Hyacinth (Eichornia azurea and E. Speciosa) contrasts pleasingly with the gold of the Water Poppy (Limnocharis Humboldtii).

Within, the Botanical Building presents a somewhat altered appearance. The Strelitzias in the lath house, which a month or so ago were often mistaken by the uninitiated for bananas, have reduced the possibility of error to a minimum, for while their relative might bear a leaf very similar, no banana could ever bear such a flower. The common name of Bird of Paradise Flower is very apt, as the flower surely does resemble some strange tropical bird of gaudy plumage rather than a member of the vegetable kingdom. Adjoining this, and elsewhere in the house are groups of Tiger Lilies, Gold Banded Lilies and the type known as L. lancifolium—all quite decorative. The tuberous Begonias still continue to attract much favorable comment. There are several small groups of Primula obconica which help to furnish color. The dainty little Exacum affine from the island of Socotra, wherever that is, is also scattered in like fashion throughout the two buildings. The plant is a dwarf herb with light blue flowers of a peculiar but quite pleasing odor, and is sometimes mistaken for Saintpaulia by reason of the similarity of the flower. Inside the glass house, on the east wall, is a specimen of Hoya carnosa. Here again a common name is very descriptive, for so much does the appearance of the flowers of the Wax Flower Vine belie a natural origin, that it is almost impossible to believe that they are not the kind that were wont to inhabit glass jars in our grandmothers' parlors, together with the hair wreath, etc. However, the flower of the Hoya is delicately tinted with pink, and is quite attractive.

Recently the collection has been increased by the addition of some Amorphophallus Rivieri, which bears the very suggestive name of "Snake Palm", possibly because of the markings of the leaves and stem, which may resemble the markings upon some species of snake. I cannot say, certainly, just which one it resembles, as I try to keep my acquaintance with such reptiles down to a minimum. The leaf is quite tropical in appearance, and the flower, when it is borne, will resemble that of the Calla, but is rosy in color, and has a disagreeable odor.

In the bulbous planting, just east of the Botanical Building, the Ismene calathina, or Peruvian Daffodil is demonstrating its usefulness as a summer flower. The leaves are almost identical with those of the Amaryllis, and the flower is just tinted with pink, and very fragrant with a sort of tuberose odor. In this same bulbous planting is a group of Gnaphalium lanatum, not bulbous, however, but interesting because of its relationship to the famous "Edelweiss", which is Gnaphalium Leontopodium. The former is grown mainly for its silver gray foliage, although the clusters of cream colored flowers which it is now bearing are not unattractive when massed. In the background of the planting is a group of the Canna Wyoming, with rich bronzy foliage, and deep orange bloom.

The familiar tiny blue flowers of Duranta plumieri may be seen in many different spots throughout the grounds. One good group is on the edge of the canyon near the southwest corner of the Commerce and Industries Building, another is east of the same building, also on the edge of the canyon, but a different canyon. Across the walk from this last group, and extending along the entire east wall of the building, the mixed planting of ferns, begonias, fuchsias,etc., is a pleasant surprise to the visitor who tires of the paved Prado and the heavier and more formal plantings. This planting is bordered by an edging of Carissa edulis, an edible plum from Natal, its clean, fresh appearance being occasionally supplemented by single white flowers, of the odor of orange blossoms, and resembling them in habit.

Iochroma tubulosa is now in full flower, its clusters of tubular, bluish purple flowers being decidedly showy.

The promised bloom of the "False Artichokes" (some one please tell us the Botanical name) have come forth and are quite equal to our expectations. The planting in the rear of the Sacramento Building contains

several good specimens. It is somewhat tropical in appearance, growing upwards of five or six feet, evidently, its silver gray, thistle-like foliage surmounted by rich heliotrope-blue thistle-like flowers. Along the same walk, but in the rear of the California Building, is the canna exhibit of Conrad & Jones, and is, of course resplendent with bloom, excepting our namesake, the new canna, San Diego, which was shipped too late to come into bloom with the others, but will be along later. Directly west of the Cristobal Cafe is a bed of cannas containing Vaughan's gorgeous new introduction, combined with King Humbert, which is similar in habit and color of flower, but different in foliage.

Part of the tribute which was offered up to Mme. Schumann-Heink, not long ago, was in the form of the Lobelia-Ageratum border surrounding the law in front of the organ. The immense crowd overflowed the walks and trampled it completely out of existence. A substitute was found in Vernon Begonias, edged with Santolina.

There are no large Eucalyptus ficifolia on the grounds, but the youngsters which are there are making a brave show of bloom, and it is real scarlet bloom, not old rose. One especially attractive specimen may be seen on the west side of Cabrillo canyon, south of the bridge. It seems almost superfluous to direct the attention of the visitor to the Nelumbiums (and Nymphaeas, although the latter are pretty far away to be appreciated) now in bloom in the lagoon at the bottom of this same canyon, under the bridge, but for one who might enter at the east gate and leave the same way, mention is made. It is rather interesting to note that the Nymphaeas and Nelumbiums in this lagoon are subjected to somewhat the same conditions as in the East and North, in that because of some frost in the canyon bottom, they go entirely dormant during the winter, and then, also because they are in the canyon bottom, receive the benefit of a quicker, hotter growing season than on the mesa, and the resultant growth is all that could be desired.

The Lath House

Day by day the lath house wins its way, and it bids fair to supersede the screen porch, that architectural offence that presupposes flies and hints at mosquitoes. Perhaps for a time it will continue to be in the average, a small affair, but sooner or later it must become the garden on the small holding. It cannot be enjoyed unless it has room for the owner and friends to get into it and stay in for a season with comfort. The growths at present planted in lath houses are only a tithe of what will be used, take for instance the Treefern. Alsophila Australis is often seen and Dicksonia Antartica, but a much more beautiful variety, Cibotium Glucum is hardly known. This must not be confounded with Cebotium Schedei, which has no trunk, for Glaucum has much the best trunk of them all and its magnificent fronds are a splendid color. It surely must be hardy as it grows outside in San Francisco Park. In palms, a most pleasing variety is Caryota-wrens or the fishtail palm, which looks like a hybrid between a maiden hair fern and a bamboo. Then the Acalyphas, foliage shrubs, particularly the brown bronzed leaved one, should be more used.

Another point, the lath house must not be left barren for winter and spring, it should provide ideal conditions for many bulbs, freesias, narcissus and tulips, these last particularly, for outside they do and they chiefly don't, because for best development they require an almost wet soil during the period of growth. The freesias and narcissus can be worked in now between the tuberous begonias. The snowdrop, that is not technically a snowdrop, but looks like one, does splendidly under lath and should go in now, and why not try crocuses and all those hitherto forbidden delights of the land that awakes from under the snow mantle. The lath house tenders are invited to use their imaginations and dare to try anything, except lily of the valley and paeonies, these they touch entirely on their own responsibility and forewarned.

Many will remember the aconite, with its beautiful leaf and yellow flowers that used to carpet the ground under snowberry bushes. Why not test it?

Going back to the spring of the lands of ice and snow we see the primrose and the cowslip. These have glorified descendants that should consent to bloom in our lath houses, and the Eastern folks will want to try the trailing arbutus, that modest thing of subtle scent that every novelist has dragged into the lime light.

The name 'lath house" is proving a handicap. The "house" is wrong. It should be lath garden and immediately our vision of it would enlarge beyond ferns and begonias, and we would dare to plant blooming things without so much apology.

Begonias---Kinds and Care

By MRS. F. D. WAITE

BEGONIAS are universally admired, and if, of all flowers, I could have but one kind, I should unhesitatingly choose begonias, knowing that in them I should get beauty and great variety—variety in foliage, flower and growth.

From the dainty little begonia, Miniature Bedding, introduced by Sutton & Sons, of England, and described as being no larger than a well grown lobelia, to the gigantic tree begonias, originated in our own state by the late Mrs. Theodosia B. Shepherd of Ventura, there is a great range of variety. I have grown the tree begonias, Yosemite and Flammarion, to a height of twelve and fifteen feet, and have had them loaded with great panicles of brilliant blossoms, gleaming through the beautiful foliage of red, green and bronze.

From my experience with the tree begonias I should class them as summer bloomers, although I think that with special care and treatment, they might be made to bloom all through the year. However, they are always fine and distinctive, when well grown, even without the flowers, because of the high coloring and changeful sheen of the foliage. The tree begonias show the parentage of Pink Rubra in the large bright blossoms, but the beauty of the foliage in color and texture, that indescribable soft, silky appearance, comes from the other parent, Glorie de Seaux. The latter is an old begonia but rare. We do not often meet with it or hear of it these days, and rarely see it catalogued. Its growth is erect and tree-like, much like the Argentia Guttata and Glorie de Lucerne (not Corallina Lucerne, which is altogether different in growth). The coloring of Glorie de Seaux is very distinct, being a dark purplish red, similar to the red of Louise Closson. The surface of the leaf is dotted all over with tiny white dots; not splashes, but dots. A well grown Glorie de Seaux, when in bloom, with its delicate pink blossoms, invariably brings out the "Ohs" and "Ahs" even from those who are not generally given to extravagant praise.

I would like to mention the good qualities of many begonias in my collection, but knowing what a feast for the eyes lies just outside these walls, I will not take up too much time in words. However, I wish to say something about the various types of these interesting plants, types that are increasing very fast as the begonia becomes better known and qualified to fill the much desired place in flora culture as the "must haves."

What a wonderful change has come to the semper-florens class in the last ten years! Originally this class of begonias produced blooms in shades of light pink, once in a while a good clear white, and once in a great while a good red, but one thing in their favor was that they were easily raised from slips and seeds, and were possessed of that one delightful quality—everblooming. Now from these same semper-florens we have the Vernons, reds and pinks, with a great change in foliage. The semper-florens proper has not a particle of red or other color than green in its foliage. The Vernons are also a progression from the Semper-florens in the profusion of bloom. The Vernons grow tall, like the class to which they belong, but in foliage, color and in rich and plentiful bloom they far surpass the original Semper-florens. All this is true with one exception, I think, and that exception is the Seashell (also originated by Mrs. Shepherd.) Seashell is indeed a true Semper-florens, evenly colored pink and white, and does not vary in its edging of pink to any disparaging extent. It is a constant and prolific bloomer, and comes true from seed.

But the greatest and most beneficial change in the Semper-florens class is that found in the dainty yet robust Gracillis type. Thus we now have three types in the Semper-florens class—the original Semper-florens, the Vernon, and the Gracillis. The latter was developed by French florists. In fact the French have done more for the expansion and development of the begonia than any other people not excepting the Germans. The latter, however, are to be credited with some beautiful begonias, especially with that quartette of beauties, Sachsen, Bayern Preussen and de Wurtemburg.

It was from France that we first received the first Gracillis Luminosa and Gracillis Rosea. Then followed our own American Prima Donna, the white Gracillis Alba, the Salmon Queen, and last, but not least, the intensely brilliant Mignon. All of this type have the highly colored foliage, can be planted out in sun or shade, are everblooming and dwarf, can be cut back close to the ground and will respond as if thankful for the shearing, so they can show how quickly they can get up again. However, they do object to hail. It was so unexpected, you know, and all that. The foliage of Salmon Queen in sunlight turns a brilliant orange scarlet.

The ease with which this type of begonia may be grown out of doors in San Diego should commend it to florists and others commercially inclined. San Diego should supply

the world's demand for "bedding out" begonias.

The members of the Ricinifolia type, from the old time Ricinifolia to the latest development, are all beautiful and entirely different in appearance from those I have mentioned. The style of growth in the Ricinfolia type is low, spreading and recumbent. In season all bear lovely sprays of pink or white blossoms. This type is not everblooming, and is not easily reproduced, because it lacks in growth which allows of propagation by slips. This can be accomplished, although in a slow way, by rooting leaves in sand, as is done with the discolor or Rex begonias. One of the later begonias of the Ricinifolia type is the Cuban Giant, from the wilds of Cuba. When I first added it to my collection it was so new it didn't even have a civilized name, so I cling to the old name, Cuban Giant. Although it is properly civilized now, I do not recall the new name at present. It is not a giant in height but in foliage. It has very large, round, green leaves, and bears graceful tall panicles of white bead-like blossoms. It does not like cold weather.

There are other distinct types of begonias, one of which is familiarily represented in the well known Rubra, another in the Weltoniensis.

Of all begonias Rubra and Metallica are perhaps the most widely known. Gigantia Rosea is not so well known but is a very desirable plant. It can be grown as a tall plant or pruned to form a more bushy body. But like that other most desirable variety, Gilsonii, it will never become common, as it does not produce many slips, because of its long joints.

Of other types, equally attractive and altogether different in foliage and flower are the small leaved varieties which are so fine and satisfactory for the lath house, pergola and shady, protected locations in the garden. Of these my favorite is the Robusta, as it furnshes the most exquisite bouquets for interior decoration the year around. Hybrida Multiflora Rosea is another, altogether charming. The smallest leaved begonia, Foliosa, is dainty and pretty; and nothing is prettier than a well grown plant of the old, old Fuchoides Coccinia McBethii and Richardsonii, with their fern-like foliage add much to a begonia collection. All of these begonias and many others do well in the living room, with very little care.

Manicata Aurea is glorious without a flower, and still more so when in bloom, and Otto Haecker, when in bloom is a show all by itself, a study in green and red.

Among the new begonias of merit is Manicata Cristata. It has light green leaves, with the edges beautifully fringed, similar to the new begonia Bunchii, which has a dark green leaf with the under side red, like the parent plant, Sanguinia (the begonia of many names) from which it is a sport. This new begonia, Manicata Cristata, sells for five and ten dollars per plant, according to the size. La Patria, another new variety, sells at one dollar per plant. Smaragdina is another new ornamental variety, selling at a fancy price for small plants. It has beautiful green, velvety foliage. I was promised some seed from an eastern importer, but as it was to come from Belgium it is not strange that it failed to appear. Such disappointments make it difficult for us to remain neutral.

The new everblooming Marmorata, of which I am expecting all sorts of beautiful results, started early from Belgium, and reached the many begonia enthusiasts, who, with the importer, had given it up as lost.

The new bulbuous winter-blooming begonias look very interesting at a distance of several thousand miles, and I hope in the near future to have a closer acquaintance with them, and an opportunity to try them out in a San Diego lath house. There are four varieties of these, each listed at a fancy price. They are Mrs. Heal, Ensigne, Julius and Winter Cheer. Turnfold Hall is a new winter flowering white begonia. It resembles Gloria de Lorraine in habit of growth, but I sincerely hope it will prove not quite so difficult of culture as the charming Glory de Lorraine. However, the latter has good reason for looking to its laurels, since the coming of Flory de Cincinnati, which is no less beautiful and will prove more easy to handle.

The new Lloydii is said to be an everblooming variety. Mine did not live long enough for me to become acquainted with its bloom, but I shall try it again. I have seen a bloom of Lloydii, a dazzling red, but I understand it comes in shades of pink and red, as well as white and yellow. Lloydii is particularly fine for baskets as its habit of growth is drooping, similar to the Glaucafilla Scandens and Scandens Alba.

To the begonia enthusiast it might be suggested that the Weltoniensis type of fibrous begonias, of which there are at least half a dozen varieties, should also be a connecting link between the fibrous-rooted and the tuberous-rooted begonias.

Botanically, the begonia is a genus of plants belonging to the order Begoniaceae. The species are natives of tropical countries, with only one exception so far as I know. That exception is Evansiana, which is a hardy plant, enduring Jack Frost at his worst, as its tuberous roots remain snugly tucked away for the winter under the snow-covered ground, holding promise of beautiful foliage and flower for the coming summer time.

Tropical America and Asia are the homes of begonias, often growing in the dense shade and moist heat required by the orchid.

The leaves of begonias in their natural surroundings are generally oblong and unequal,

more developed on one side of the midrib than on the other, and are often richly tinted with crimson. The flowers are generally pink and grow in cymes or clusters. The young leaves and stems of the species Malabarica and Tuberosa are used as pot herbs by the natives of the country in which they grow. Not only are the leaves of the begonia generally unequal, but an interesting fact in connection with this is that the seed capsules are also unequal.

Begonias may be divided into three great divisions—the fibrous-rooted, the tuberous-rooted, and the Rex or discolored.

The origin of the flowering section or division appears to be the Begonia Argyrostigma, while a plant found in tropical Asia is the parent of the Rex begonias, properly called discolor.

The typical Rex was introduced from the tropics as long ago as 1858. It is always known as "The Rex," in other words "the King of Begonias." It is still in cultivation, and is one of the best for amateurs. From the Rex many beautiful hybrides have been developed. What I call the branching or upright Rex are hybrids of the Rex and flowering begonias. These upright Rex begonias are more easily grown than the true Rex. They seem to be more hardy in every way. Robert George is a good specimen of this class, as is Mrs. Shepherd, and also Bertha McGregor. The latter is quite distinct in the shape of its leaves. However, I have never seen a hybrid of this type that retains the velvety appearance of the parent Rex. The foliage is more silky.

Begonias thrive best in a moist atmosphere, when protected from direct rays of the sun and from the violent force of the wind, and when planted in soil with perfect drainage. The soil, while rich, should be sandy enough to be light and porous. Leaf mold and sand alone I consider good for most begonias, but some varieties will do better with a soil of more substance. In all cases the drainage must be good. Otherwise the strongest plant will begin to sulk, and when a begonia begins to sulk and shows it by looking pale and finally dropping its leaves, it is time to investigate the cause, and if necessary to substitute good, sweet soil for the soaked, soggy and sour soil, in which the begonia will surely die. When soil in pots or boxes shows a green moss or mold on the surface apply fresh slacked lime (I like air-slacked best) sparingly, working it well into the top soil. Soil that seems stagnant and sour may also be made active and sweet by this means.

Occasionally begonias are attacked by a fungus on the under side of the foliage and the stems. This ruins the attractiveness of the plant. The development of this fungus is generally due to a crowded condition, to a lack of fresh air while forcing the growth of the plants. The remedy is fresh air and the removal of the affected plants from the healthy ones, as the disease is contagious. For the brown leaf fungi, to which climbing Margery Daw is subject, as is also the Rubra type of begonias, remove the affected leaves and apply slacked lime and sulphur in equal parts to the top soil.

A good and safe fertilizer for begonias is tobacco. If it is tobacco dust, sprinkle it thinly on the top soil. But the cheaper and better way is to procure tobacco stems. Some make a tea of them by pouring boiling water over them, but I think the best way is to soak the tobacco in cold water over night. Dilute this to the color of very weak tea and use it not more than once a week.

Begonias will not bear with impunity all sorts of fertilizers and stimulants, so do not be too good to your plants. They do not want to be fed too much or all the time. Especially abstain from fertilizing a sickly plant. That would cause sure death.

The Rex begonias like a rather cool, moist, shady place, and plenty of root room (just the reverse of the blooming begonias, which will bloom more abundantly when the roots are somewhat crowded). Under such conditions the Rex begonias will produce very large leaves. The blossoms on the Rex do not amount to much, and I generally pinch out the buds at their first appearance, as I do not want the strength of the plant to be diverted from producing the beautiful foliage. The soil for Rex should be very loose and loamy, and in placing the plant in box or pot do not make the mistake of setting it too deep, as a Rex can as easily be smothered with soil as a plant of the tuberous variety.

I have almost one hundred varieties of begonias, a collection that never ceases to be attractive and interesting to me and to many of my begonia-loving friends. A hobby? Yes, a hobby, and a hobby that has satisfied me for many years, and that never wears out in interest and enjoyment. Emerson says:

> "Chide me not, laborious band,
> For the idle flowers I brought;
> Every aster in my hand
> Goes home loaded with a thought."

And I think he is right about it. The hobby for flowers is not an idle pastime; it is filled with all that is good and elevating, soulful and high-minded.

Have you secured two new subscribers to California Garden, as requested by the board of directors of the Floral Association?

Floral Society Notes

Ruth Ingersoll Robinson.

The artistic planting which characterizes the garden of Mrs. Mary W. Kraemer, proved so attractive to Madame Marie Montessori, the Italian educator, that she sought the privilege of living amid these surroundings. When Madame Montessori's wish was gratified, and she was able to spend a month in Mrs. Kraemer's home, she expressed her appreciation of this garden in terms of highest praise.

On the occasion of the reception given by Mrs. Jarvis L. Doyle and Mrs. Edward Fletcher, in honor of their niece, Miss Mary Fletcher, the selection and arrangement of flowers throughout Mrs. Doyle's home proved to be one of the distinctive features of the entertainment.

Two shades of the giant blue larkspur were used to most charming effect in the French-grey living room. Baskets and bouquets of pink, blue and white bachelor buttons combined with the dainty gypsophillia formed the decorative scheme in the dining room. Varicolored zinnias added to the cheerfulness of the glass enclosed porch where refreshing punch was served.

Miss Fletcher, the complimented guest, was married July twenty-fourth to Mr. Elon O. Gilbert of Los Angeles.

After having spent an afternoon in the wonderfully planned grounds surrounding the new home of Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Sweet, one may imagine, in part, what a delightful surprise the garden must have been to Miss Elaine Sweet upon her return from a year at the Mount Vernon Seminary in Washington, D. C.

The house, being of the Spanish Colonial type, makes bright masses of color against the concrete walls and facades,thoroughly consistent. The dominant color notes are red, yellow and orange planted with a discriminating hand. Among the most effective elements used in carrying out this general plan are the terra cotta bougainvillea; the orange bignonia; the New Zealand flax; and the crimson berried naudina domestica. The delicate yellow blossoms of the acacia latifolia and acacia baileyana grow in striking contrast with their neighbors, the poinsettias; the red Australian bottle brush (Melaluca hypercifolia), and the brilliant-flowered eucalyptus ficifolia. Broad lawns and open spaces in the foreground show the vines and shrubbery of the background to the best possible advantage. The coprosma baueriana, the grevillia and the campsidium supply some of the dense green masses. A splendid specimen of the tropical musa enseta is growing near the north entrance to this very artistic home.

Two varieties of the ornamental grape vine adorn the south pergola. One of these, the vitas utilans, has the long, thread-like streamers which are bright read during the fall months.

A most striking Moorish detail of the house is to be found in the patio. The fountain here is built of highly glazed blue and yellow tile and the planting carries out this color scheme through the use of the blue veronica (speciosa imperialis) and climbing yellow roses: the William Allen Richardson; the gold of ophir, and the shower of gold.

The aforementioned plants, trees and flowering shrubs are only the most striking units of the general color scheme. This fact will be fully appreciated by all who have the pleasure of seeing this typically Spanish-Californian garden of Mr. and Mrs. Sweet. The thoughtfulness and care with which every seed and slip have been planted in these grounds should prove a joy and inspiration to all admirers of the art of landscape gardening.

AUGUST GARDENING.

Walter Birch

August is a good month to pull yourself together and make up your mind that you will give the garden plot a general overhauling, so to speak. The weather has been quite hot for the last ten days of July, and, you have probably slackened up a bit in your attention to the garden. But you know "it is never too late to mend," so just get out and see that those neglected weeds are hoed out and those plants where the ground has become hard are well cultivated, and those suckers pruned away. In fact the more you look around the more you will find to do, so just get busy!

Your vegetable garden can yet be started or added to. You can plant cabbage and cauliflower, seed or plants, carrots, beets and turnips, lettuce and radish, parsnip and spinach. Peas will do fairly well now, also, but better as the weather get cooler. Cultivate well this month and don't forget to water and keep a fine surface. A little fertilizer will help out, either well rotted manure or bone meal.

Freesias and oxalis can now be put in, also your winter blooming sweet peas. A number of the comparatively early bulbs are not in the market yet, and won't come in until September and October, at which time there is a good deal more bulb planting done. Sow your annuals now for winter blooming, pansies, phlox, scarlet flax, centaurea, etc. Sow in boxes, and transplant when big enough.

The Dahlia

Alfred D. Robinson

This last month I have been inspecting the dahlias as grown in the northern part of the State, particularly at the San Francisco Exposition, and in Golden Gate Park, and am more deeply impressed than ever with the favorable conditions pertaining in San Diego for the cultivation of this wonderful flower.

Both at the Exposition and in Golden Gate Park very remarkable flowers, both in age and color, are shown. Those in the latter location, having a sheltered spot by the conservatory, show up the better. The plants rule much more dwarf than in San Diego and rigid disbudding has been practised, even to the one crown bud for an entire stalk. This has sacrificed the bedding effect to a large extent, and nowhere was there in evidence a large bed of one variety which is necessary to really give the dahlia a chance as a bedder. Perhaps the northern cool and fog will always bring out color distinctions better than the drier sunnier southern climate, but the latter will have the advantage in greater vigor of growth and longer blooming season.

Among varieties that I noted as worthy of a place in my yellow and orange collection are Berch von Heemstede, Mrs. J. C. Vaughan, Yellow Colosse, Golden Gate, Electric and Mary Purrier. Elsa is a large white and of course many other splendid things appear in other colors.

The multiplication of varieties and the enormous range of color in the dahlia family seems to point to a color scheme as the most simple method of controlling the collector's fever and keeping the list of varieties within the bounds of the ordinary garden. There are at least five hundred really good dahlias, but that number would swamp the average garden, and in any case fairness to the plant demands that several of a variety shall be grown together for effect. The combination of collector and gardener is hard to reconcile. The itch to have one of everything often results in mighty poor garden effects, and the efforts of a collector result in a trial ground, not a garden, as a general thing. Take yellow, red, pink, and within each of these classifications applied broadly are a myriad varieties that don't clash, and the whites go with all.

The display at the Exposition in San Francisco shows that there are several dahlia growers in California that are producing worth while seedlings and the day of the exclusive dahlia show is in sight. One variety shown had a bronze foliage though the flower was insignificant.

If you wish a second crop of bloom the tops must be cut right off to the ground this month at least, and when doing so it is quite possible to move the tubers if they are transplanted at once without any drying.

Attend to watering and fertilize.

Carry a note book and list every variety you see that you wish to have. Make your notes intelligible by a brief but sufficient description. I have seen lots of folks making notes, where the whole item was simply a name like, Kriemhilde, trusting to memory to tell them at a future date whether Kriemhilde was a dahlia or a new fig and all the rest of the necessary information. My own note book is littered with this class of beheaded notation and I find the habit hard to correct.

Recent investigation has confirmed my former belief that for best effect dahlias want a background of taller shrubbery or trees. Where grounds are large enough they group splendidly in the scallops in lawns in front of firs or other thick greenery, but they should have the advantage of color classification. The odd person wears all the jewelry junk together and the others laugh, but the odd gardener masses color and the rest jumble and laugh. Why?

The Rose

I have seen Madame Edward Heriot, or The Daily Mail rose, in bloom and this has caused fervent prayers that the lady will take kindly to our climate. She combines the blush of the apricot kissed by the sun with the glint of that orb through the mane of my sorrel horse, and I tasted again the orange meat of the best musk melon I ever ate. She was blooming in a gale of wind that to my knowledge had never stopped for a week and the rest of the roses around her were reduced by its bitter touch to a common dirty blue white, so it is fair to assume that her color is more than skin deep. Here is to your good behavior, Madame; Monsieur Joseph Hill awaits you expectantly.

For the next two months those roses which are destined to bear a fall crop of bloom should be watered very sparingly if at all. It is impossible to be very explicit because weather conditions and location modify circumstances. The ground should, however, be kept worked. This does not apply to recently planted bushes, climbers or any bush where growth is desired or apparent weakness would indicate danger in the process. Standards should be kept growing to provide wood to make a good head. Again this season the standard type of plant is doing far better than the bush in the writer's garden.

August Gardens

By Walter Birch

We have been in communication with the Bureau of Entomology in Washington, D. C. as to remedies for the snails and slugs which are becoming such a serious pest in our gardens. We had hoped to learn of a parasite or disease with which the creatures might be inoculated, so as to destroy them, but it appears that thus far, no such remedy has been discovered. Our correspondent recommends the scattering of quicklime about the plants, near dwellings and outhouses and wherever the snails seem to be most numerous. Other remedies suggested are salt, soot, fine road dust and sifted wood ashes, all applied as fine as possible, and scattered on the ground and over the plans, in the same manner as the quicklime. In Germany it is claimed that good results have been obtained by sprinkling beer over the plants and placing fresh lettuce leaves dipped in beer where the snails will eat them at night. Paris Green should be added to the beer, at the rate of one-third of an ounce to a gallon of beer.

Nurserymen's Convention

The Fifth Annual Meeting of the California Association of Nurserymen will be held at the Civic Auditorium, San Francisco, August 12, 13 and 14. Fred H. Howard, of the firm of Howard & Smith, Los Angeles, is president of the association.

Some of the subjects to be discussed are:

"The department store and the nursery industry."

"Recent Rulings in re-shipping Plants by Parcels Post."

"The Crime of Being a Nurseryman."

"Why Import what we can Grow on the Coast?"

"Do we need New Varieties of Commercial Fruits?"

"A Publisher's Suggestions to Nurserymen."

"For the Good of the Association."

Their folder, being sent to all members, contains a suggestion that the members make a trip to the Exposition at San Diego, at the close of the Convention.

The Solanum Wendlandii over the pergola garage entrance at the George Frost residence, on Second St., is well worth an inspection. Against the white plaster it is very effective. Lavender flowers against white always look well and make unusual composition.

Mrs. McCaskey, Second and Thorn Sts., worked for this plan and succeeded, and even today the front garden is very noticeable. The common old ivy geranium, with superior foliage and lavender blooms, trimmed the fence. Heliotrope and solanum wendlandii were conspicuous against the porch with white jasamine. This solanum needs trimming after foliage falls.

It grows quite readily from cuttings. A division fence or a pergola covered with this vine, where a very large amount shows, would be very attractive and a fine setting for a garden bed in shades of pink, with plenty of white and light yellow.

The Guatamala syringa is growing fast and blooming well just now. Mrs. F. W. Waite has several strong plants and says she wants it everywhere for its delightful perfume. Also in Mrs. Geo. Hart's pretty garden at Lemon Grove, and Mrs. Dickinson's and Mrs. Williams' garden in Mission Hills they are full of bloom and buds. In a few places it is spreading over the ground of a sloping terrace. Large growing vines for ground covering promises well for new places and for sloping hillsides.

Miss Alice Lee's light blue century plant is very much glorified and practically in full bloom. Don't miss seeing it. Its name is Agave Franzozini.

Mr. A. D. Robinson's new lath house is very promising. The irregularity of its paths, the attractive rocks giving forth trickling waters to the pool, the central bed with its fine ferns, the clever pipe racks for supporting hanging baskets, the workshop corner and the open garden section, all go to prove that thought and experience have worked hand in hand in the lath house construction.

The bed of cardinal lobelia at the corner of the residence is most magnificent, and Mr. Robinson deserves praise for its successful growth. What he can do, many others also can do, for if there is any trick about the job he will certainly tell you. There are no patents on gardening.

A citizen of Los Angeles county has taken the trouble of investigating the practicability and expense of the rose trellises along the highways in that county, and his conclusion is that they are very expensive ornaments. The cost of the trellises was $15,360, the planting and care to May 1 was $16,677, besides replanting those that died, expense of watering, etc., brought the total expense up to $38,551, to June 1. While roses are beautiful in a garden where they can be given constant care, he concludes that they are not the thing for highways, and that the spending of $2,000 per month of the tax-payers' money to try to keep them thriving is almost criminal.

THE SNAIL

Observe, my friend, the silly snail,
More brainless than a hen
He pokes his head from out his shell
Then draws it in again.

He draws it in, the witless beast
Nor leaves his tail without
And there he stays the way he was
Before he poked it out.

And as you watch the silent shell
And glimpse the open door
The witless mollusc takes his head
And pokes it out once more.

—ALBERT L. BAILEY, JR.

The California Garden

Alfred D. Robinson, Editor
G. T. Keene, Manager

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August Regular Meeting

The August meeting of the Floral Association will be held Tuesday evening, the 17th, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. E. E. White, 3100 Redwood, near Second. Take Mission Hills cars to Second and Spruce streets, walk one block south.

A century plant at the home of Miss Alice Lee, 3560 Seventh street, has thrown up a bloom stalk to a height of thirty-five feet. It is really a wonderful specimen, and is well worth a trip to see.

Editor Alfred D. Robinson and Mrs. Robinson, with their young daughter, have been spending a fortnight in San Francisco. At last reports Mr. Robinson had a date with Superintendent John McLaren, of Golden Gate Park, to make a tour of inspection of the plantings in the park and the Exposition grounds. If I only had in type what those two men said about plants and flowers on that trip, California would have a new floral textbook.

The Dean Iris Gardens are running an advertisement in this magazine because they want to introduce some of their beautiful bulb flowers into San Diego, and get you into the habit of planting Iris. How many of you have read their ads, and how many of you are going to read the one in this issue? Also, how many of you are going to act upon the suggestion made therein?

The July Meeting

THOSE who attended the July meeting of the San Diego Floral Association, at the W. L. Frevert residence, First and Walnut streets, were doubly repaid. They had an opportunity of listening to an excellent paper on "Begonias", the subject of the evening, by Mrs. F. D. Waite, and also were privileged to go through the Frevert gardens, where the begonia dwells most contentedly.

The meeting was well attended and as the guests arrived they soon found their way into the garden, which is so well lighted that it shows off to almost as good advantage at night as in the daytime.

It has been only three or four years since Mr. and Mrs. Frevert, in response to an awakening interest in flowers, decided to change their barn yard into a garden. They still profess to know nothing about flowers, but whether they do or not, the result of their four years' work is really quite wonderful If knowing about flowers, means a technical education in flori-culture, perhaps these good people might still be considered in the kindergarten; but if raising fine specimen plants from seeds and cuttings of many varieties may be taken as a basis of judgment, then Mr. and Mrs. Frevert and Capt. and Mrs. Miller are not in the class with novices. Ferns and begonias seem to be their favorites, though they by no means limit their attentions to those branches of the floral kingdom. The garden throughout is intensely interesting and it was with considerable difficulty that the guests were finally herded into the parlors for the meeting.

The Floral Association was honored by the presence of Editor P. D. Barnhart, of the Pacific Garden, Pasadena, who came down for the sole purpose of attending the meeting. He has watched us from a distance for several years, and whenever he has half an excuse he mentions us in his own publication. His curiosity finally got the better of him and he came down to see what we look like. I watched him very closely and failed to detect any look of disappointment, so I'm hoping we passed muster. Editor Barnhart made an excellent talk full of kindly interest in all living things from the plant to the human being.

The subject was introduced by Mrs. Waite, who is generally considered to be one of our leading local authorities on Begonias. She opened all the closet doors of the Begonia family, telling of their humble beginning, their journeyings through many lands, and their gradual development into the fine specimens of today.

Elsewhere in this issue we are going to publish Mrs. Waite's paper on Begonias,

though it may be necessary to continue it over into the September number.

As usual Miss Kate Sessions had some interesting foliage and flowers to exhibit and President Robinson brought over a box of his wonderful seedling dahlias and others from among his floral favorites.

Taken all together it was a most interesting meeting, which probably had something to do with the Secretary gathering in several new members to the association.

Miss Ruth Robinson has undertaken to report each month the news in San Diego plant society. Miss Robinson and the Garden will both appreciate it if you will call her attention to any item of interest in your own or your neighbor's garden.

Have you secured two new subscribers to California Garden, as requested by the board of directors of the Floral Association?

OUT-DOOR MEETING

The out-of-door meeting of the Floral Association was held July 23 in the garden surrounding the new home of Mr. and Mrs. M. Kew. This garden with its wealth of new foliage and bloom was a delight to every member of the Association. The artistic stone wall enclosing the garden forms a distinctive background for the hollyhocks, penstemon, climbing roses and wisteria.

During the afternoon Miss K. O. Sessions read several chapters from a recently published book entitled "With the Flowers and Trees in California" by Charles F. Saunders. Miss Sessions recommends this work very highly. The chapter on "Wild Lilacs" points out the interesting fact of the way the introduction of the use of California annuals in gardening effects has influenced landscape gardeners in England. Through the extensive planting of annuals these gardeners have been able to achieve masses of color which they have sought for many years.

Garden Planning

(By L. A. Blochman)

The question is often asked, "How shall I lay out my new garden?" This subject is too great a one to be handled in as short an article as this, and of too diversified a nature to be handled by a general article covering all points.

To begin, you must make up your mind as to the kind of a garden you want. You can not have the same kind of garden on the slope of a canyon as you could have on a flat, level lot. A corner lot requires a different treatment than an inside lot. A lot that is considerably broken might offer advantages for a Japanese garden, a rock garden, as a water garden with pools, rivulets and falls, with a greater advantage and less expense than a level lot. One with considerable slope might offer advantages as regards terracing, and making a formal, or Italian garden.

Furthermore, the style and location of a house will affect the style of the garden. The surroundings also have to be considered. If your neighbor has a large expanse of lawn joining your grounds, it might be to your advantage to plant another lawn alongside and thereby add depth and distance to your vista and make your own garden appear much larger. On the other hand, your neighbor might have objectional features that you would want to shut out and you would plant your shrubbery and arrange your accessories accordingly. When I speak of accessories I refer to such adjuncts to a garden as pergolas, lath houses, summer houses, arbors, covered nooks, and the like, and every garden in Southern California should have its quota, including an outdoor lounging room, where we could eat, work, have a social game of bridge or pour a cup of tea to invited friends among a galaxy of vines, ferns and flowers. A spot of beauty where, with comfort, we can breath in the balm of our exceptional climate.

Then we might have a beautiful view that we would want to frame in and accentuate, or we might have a view that could be improved by the proper placing of shrubs and trees. On the other hand, a beautiful view might be shut out by injudicious planting. The back ground is important. As a general

IRISES

If you have room in your garden for but ONE Iris, plant ***I. Caterina.*** It may be you think you do not care for IRIS—we feel confident you will be pleased with ***I. Caterina.***

Even if you have a LARGE collection of Iris, you will want to try ***I. Caterina*** —it has so many good points to recommend it.

To place it within the reach of all, we are this season offering good, strong plants for 50 cents; extra strong for $1.00, postpaid.

Our new price list mailed free. Booklet, giving much valuable information on the Iris, with color plate of I. Caterina, sent for 15 cents in stamps.

THE DEAN IRIS GARDENS, Moneta (Los Angeles County) California

rule the taller plants and shrubs should be planted in the back ground and the lowest plants nearest the walks. Don't lay out your walks with a straight edge, except in the case of pergolas, where you expect a vista, nor your hedges in a straight line. Try to imitate nature and study the manner in which trees and shrubs grow wild in beautiful spots. If the hedge happens to be along a boundary fence you can always group a few shrubs alongside in various places so as to get away from the straight line effect.

Then the time of blooming and the colors should be considered. By proper attention to the shrubs, vines and plants you put in, you may always have a succession of bloom. Put in plenty of the flowers that have bloom on them during most of the year. Mass them if possible so as to get color effects. Don't have lots of small plots. Better have one large plot, than a dozen small ones. Have your walks lead somewhere. If nothing else, have them lead to a bench surrounded by shrubs and a few palm leaves overhead to shelter from sun or wind. Make your service walk as short as possible; if not, your tradespeople will take a short cut across your flower beds. All walks should be surfaced with hardpan, gravel or disintegrated granite as no one wants to walk in the mud.

You surely want a lath house. Make it large enough and tall enough to start with. If not, you will cetrainly enlarge it in time to come at a greater outlay of cash. On your lath house train vines that lose their leaves in winter and thereby allow more sun to enter, or vines that you can prune back severely. You need sun in your lath house in winter.

Do not have an old English house surrounded by palms and banana trees, nor a Spanish type house in a forest of conifers. Don't forget the vines. They take the place of our tall trees which take a long time to grow and which we sometimes miss in this climate. They add a charm and a restfulness to the surroundings you do not get from small shrubs or rosebushes. A little lath and a little chickenwire will form a support for vines and the variety and possibility of structures formed with them will repay many times their cost. Raise bamboo, and use it for summerhouses, stakes and supports, and incidentally it will beautify your grounds. Tree trunks and branches may be used in endless ways, and rustic work is always appropriate. These few hints may prove suggestive to some readers, but the subject would fill volumes.

By the way, the board of directors request each member of the association to use his or her best endeavors to get TWO new subscribers to California Garden. The subscription is $1.00 per year, or $1.50 with membership in the association. Any one with a garden, large or small, should be able to get full value out of this magazine long before the year has passed.

Have you secured two new subscribers to California Garden, as requested by the board of directors of the Floral Association?

The Wisdom of Rosecroft Hens

We have been to San Francisco and propounded this question to our chickens in the Egg laying contest there.

?

"Which do you like best, this Fair or the one at San Diego?" And a pullet replied as she pulled a loose feather out of her wing. "Oh there really is no comparison. I prefer San Francisco."

"How can that be", I asked, "when you have never seen the San Diego Fair?"

"Oh that is easy, all the visitors have an opinion and only a minority know anything about it. But is that anything unusual?" And we had to admit it was not. Don't you need this kind of a pullet at $15.00 per dozen, 3 months old.

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